



In March of 1805, Snow Magoun, single, bought a parcel of land on the newly laid out road "leading from Blue Fish River to Daniel Hall's," a corner lot beside a way leading to the shore. The deed included the privilege of using that lane, with cart or team, through gates and bars. This is the first description of the house lot on the southeast corner of Washington St. and Linden Lane.

Snow Magoun was a housewright, so he probably did much of the planning and carpentry on the house he built for his bride, Sophia, whom he married in July, 1805. Perhaps she moved in to a half finished house and had a hand in planning the interior.

It is a braced frame house built around a huge central chimney that has 6 fireplaces. The party must have overflowed the small lot, when the men gathered for the raising. Timbers supporting the floors are among the largest in any house of that time, large logs flattened on top to take the floor boards. Snow Magoun built well.

The floor plan is the same in general use at that time, 2 front rooms, one on either side of a small porch and hall, a kitchen to the rear flanked by a bed room to the south and a buttry to the north. The interior wood work is plain and substantial but Snow Magoun spent his talent on the outside. The porch is nicely planned, the quoins on the corners of the outer walls show a fine grooving that is individual, and a band of ornamental wood work under the eaves makes a more elaborate cornice than the parlors had.

It is a substantial 4 square house, a so-called captain's house, and a master mariner, Captain George Winsor, lived in it for 44 years, so long that his name is better remembered than the builders. For some years the house has been known as the Studio, with the whole original house a place of business where a variety of wares were sold. An ell now connects the old house to the barn, wider roadways and a parking space have shrunk the lot size, but the outer appearance is little changed. New owners are making some alterations that will restore the rooms to a more nearly house look.

The right of way to Lot Hunt's landing place, through gates and bars in the first deeds, is now a well paved road and houses line the sides but the old lot description holds and the house looks as it did when new. Now, instead of Sophia Magoun to greet you, Richard Rothmund and Graham Prendergast, merchants, will welcome you and proudly show you the house Snow Magoun built in 1805.

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